

BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS MEETING,
FEBRUARY 12, 2014

Roll Call:

R. Correa	Present
T. Como	Present
D. Kostantakis	Absent
T. Hickey	Absent
E. Lohsen	Present
D. Morrell	Present
P. Musse	Present
J. Sansone	Present
G. Tonner	Present
B. Wicker	Present
R. Williams	Present
Councilman Hayes	Present
Councilman Riqueleme	Present

Chairman Correa called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

January Minutes were not available at time of vote.

Chairman Correa announced, “*All requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law have been met for this meeting of the Board of Recreation Commissioners of the Borough of Dumont.*”

- Notices have been transmitted to the newspapers
- Notice is prominently posted in space provided on the bulletin board of the Borough Hall
- Notice has been filed with the Borough Clerk

OPEN PUBLIC:

Tim Downing, President of Soccer, needs permits to be approved for season that starts March 1. The paperwork seems to have gotten stalled. E. Lohsen will follow-up. Tim is also handling the accident paperwork for a Rec soccer boy whose parents had emailed the Recreation Department.

Jason Berrocal, President of Flag Football

- Jason asked that the season be moved up because they were unable to complete all games or crown a champion due to weather. He suggested July 12 through September 27. They need 2 to 3 hours a week of field time on Twin Boro Field which he’s discussed with Jerry Aponte who would be accommodating.
- Various concerns were voiced about getting less participation in the summer, whether or not it’s a feeder program and if it is, then it shouldn’t overlap with junior football. The suggestion that got the most support was to start in early September and run through November.
- Will discuss at next meeting for final decision.

Patrick Harrison, 220 Larch, borough resident, Boy Scout Troop 64

Patrick presented his Eagle Scout project proposal to build 10 to 11 bat houses made from plywood and cedar for various fields—2 in larger parks, 1 in smaller parks along the tree line, facing south. He distributed a photo and diagram to all commissioners. They would attract bats that would eat mosquitoes thereby reducing the amount of pesticides the Bergen County Mosquito Control would need to spray on the borough. He proposes installing 16 foot conduits cemented 3 feet into the ground with specially designed wooden bat houses on top. He hopes to be done by June 2nd. He's laid out a 5-mile route connecting the bat houses for the scouts in his troop to hike to so they can maintain and repair as needed.

- Commission suggested that he print out maps of the parks and mark with proposed locations. Also that he present research about bats to alleviate fear of residents, find out if other towns have bat houses and information about the dangers of mosquito pesticide.
- Commission directed him to the Building Department to approve the particulars.

P. Musse made motion to approve the proposal. J. Sansone seconded motion. All in favor.

P. Musse made motion to close open public portion of meeting. D. Morrell seconded motion. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

Recreation Department received an email from a parent regarding an accident his child had at soccer. Was forwarded to Tim Downing to handle.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

- All fencing at Veteran's Memorial Field. John Perkins says all will be installed by early April.
- J. Sansone was at the field and observed that the backstop is not being replaced and fences don't seem high enough. T. Como says John Perkins said the backstop will be replaced.
 - R. Riquelme will talk to John Perkins.
- J. Sansone said at Hockey Rink DPW used a bucket loader to push snow into the chain link fence near TwinBoro Field. Fence is falling down.
 - R. Riquelme will take a look at it.
- J. Sansone said there's no parking at Hockey Rink due to snow piles. Can they open up the parking spaces that DPW uses as a dumping ground?
- D. Hayes reported that council said few people use the parking at Gina's Field so they want to take FEMA money to install an electric fence and cameras for impounded vehicles there to alleviate overcrowding at DPW and save money on outside carrier storage costs. W. Wicker lives near there and says parking is a big problem. All agreed. G. Toner says there's 15 parking spots available nearby.
- Commission feels the DPW lot is an eyesore and an embarrassment to the town with old vehicles and salt piles.
 - D. Hayes will go to council to voice Recreation Commission's concerns.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- Team assignments were given to the commissioners.
- Welcomed E. Lohsen as Recreation Director.
- The field at Grant School is covered with excess snow piles from Madison Ave. due to the recent unprecedented snowfalls. Need to be aware of safety concerns and field conditions for programs.
- Hockey Rink has 30 foot snow piles plus deep tire ruts and broken fences due to DPW's equipment. Will need to address when the snow melts.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

- All bills that have been submitted have been paid.
- There is no final 2014 budget yet.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Demolition of fences at Veteran's Memorial Field was completed last week as per Justin Gibson, engineer. Putting in posts this week.
- Installation of new fences is proceeding as weather permits—set to be completed before Opening Day.
- Tennis courts are being done as well—including new nets. Will be resurfaced—sometime when the weather is above 55 degrees—and will be closed until dry.
- DPW is aware of poor field conditions and will do their best to get them ready. They're getting quotes on a bobcat to use for snow removal on small areas to prevent damage to the fields.
- Borough reiterated that no one is permitted to use fields or courts when snow is on the ground. When schools are closed, so are fields and parks.
- There was a dog-biting incident at the Roller Hockey rink. Policy of NO DOGS ALLOWED still stands. Incidents should be reported to the coach and Police Department.
 - J. Sansone suggested that commissioners get borough business cards with their titles so they can address issues such as this when they see them. E. Lohsen will follow up.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

T. COMO:

Senior Baseball:

- Having problems with the Men's Softball Team using his equipment.
- Signups 2/24 for ages 13-18. It will be in the TwinBoro Newspaper and on the electronic sign.
 - Needs permits for the fields.

D. KOSTANTAKIS:

Girls Basketball: Season is going very well.

- Need DHS gym for practices. E. Lohsen is following up.

Men's Softball: Had first signup 2/10 and had a good turnout.

- There are 2 more signups and a secret signup 2/27. Was advertised in TwinBoro Newspaper and on electronic sign.
- President of league has filled out calendars for the fields at TwinBoro, Bedford and Hickory.
 - Is waiting for permits. E. Lohsen is following up.
- **Women's Softball:** No report.

Wrestling: Going very well.

- Ken McGuyver, DHS wrestling coach is owed money he put out.
 - D. Kostantakis will follow up.

D. MORRELL:

Junior Football: Jerry Aponte says they need new equipment: of 117 helmets, 5 are no good, 6 not sure—will new 15 new helmets. Have 118 shoulder pads, need 15 more. Need 15 game pants. Kids pay for shirts, we pay for pants. Jerry Aponte would like to raise the registration fee \$5.00 from \$170 to \$175.

- J. Sansone suggested we see fundraising records for all sports. P. Musse said there's a sheet but perhaps they're not being turned in.
 - E. Lohsen will find out more.
- ***D. Morrell made a motion to raise registration fee from \$170 to \$175 to help cover needed uniforms and equipment. J. Sansone seconded motion. Vote as follows: Kostantakis/NAV, Morrell/yes, Musse/yes, Sansone/yes, G. Tonner/yes, R Williams/yes, Alt #1-T. Hickey/NAV, Alt #2-T. Como/yes Motion carried. (*NAV-not available at time of vote)***
- T. Como suggested we see budgets for all sports.
- They're adding additional sign-up dates: 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31 and 4/7.
 - Need to be in TwinBoro Newspaper, on electric sign and on Borough Master Calendar.
- The Junior Football hotdog cart has been given away by a DHS janitor. Jerry Aponte will file a report with the police department. Rich said to put a claim in with borough insurance.
- W. Wicker reported that Jerry turned in \$4,025 in fundraising last year.

Flag Football: No report

P. MUSSE:

Travel Boys Basketball: Doing well—they're in Second Place. Signups were down 31 kids this year over last year. Fifth grade was up 10.

- Playoffs dates at Dumont High School to come.

J. Sansone says there's not enough gym time for basketball practice.

- E. Lohsen will look into using DHS gym on Saturdays.

Boys Basketball: Schedule is behind due to bad weather. Picture Day at Honiss was disorganized according to J. Sansone. They'll give something back to the league.

Certification: Certification course will be held on Tuesday, February 18th from 7-10 pm 3rd Floor for ages 18 and up. Held by Doc Healy and Brian Joyce.

Garden at Grant: No report.

Senior Baseball: Signups to be held Monday, 2/24.

- Will schedule draft
- Is working on scheduling dates for winter workouts

J. SANSONE:

Soccer: Tim Downing's concern about field requests.

Little League: Nothing going on, but concerned about field and fence conditions.

Roller Hockey: DPW is doing a nice job on maintaining the rink. We're the only town with a workable rink right now. Would like to start in July this year.

- Ladies Bathroom water has been shut off. Needs to be fixed.
- Hut heater blows a fuse. E. Lohsen will call West/East Electric.

Got bid for new basketball courts to replace all 6—\$5600.

- Will follow up with John Keef for his bid.
- Need to get another bid.

G. TONNER:

Parks & Playgrounds: The new sign for the Dawn M. Totten Field will be ready for Opening Day.

- Will contact Eagle Scouts Justin Rivera and Jonathan Suppes to get update on their projects.
- Can they get a proclamation from Mayor?

Summer Recreation: Gearing up for 2014.

- Will contact Samantha Walters next week to get things started.
- Will meet with E. Lohsen to discuss her involvement.

Girls Volleyball Clinic: Signed up 37 kids so far. Having another signup 2/17. Is posted on the electronic sign.

Jr. Football Flyer: Will make mockup of the flyer for signups to distribute to the schools for Grades 1 through 8 as of September.

R. WILLIAMS:

Girls Softball: Enrollment was low. Jamie O'Neill wants some extra dates to sign up. Rich approved but we don't have the dates yet.

- Will find out what dates he wants and email R. Correa
- E. Lohsen will email Jamie's letter to R. Williams

Board of Education: No report

New Programs: No report

T. COMO:

Senior Baseball: They're holding a District 4 Meeting Sunday, 2/23 7:00 pm in the Courthouse.

- E. Lohsen will put it on the borough calendar to reserve the room.
- They need to submit requests the old DHS gym on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7 pm to 9 pm starting around 2/22.
 - E. Lohsen will request
- Needs field permits
- Wants signup notices in TwinBoro News for 2/24 6-8 pm and on electronic sign.
 - E. Lohsen will handle

OLD BUSINESS:

- P. Musse urged commission to resume having monthly workshops on a regular basis. None for 2/17

NEW BUSINESS:

- R. Riquelme got an email from Mayor Kelly regarding Tony Como being both a commissioner and a president suggesting that it's a conflict of interest.

The general consensus was that Tony should choose one position. Tony will give us an answer about which one he chooses by next meeting.

- R. Williams brought up that elections are supposed to be held in March.
 - Should be on agenda for 3/5 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

D. Morrell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm P. Musse, seconded motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted
Ellen Lohsen,
2/21/14